



15 May 2006

## USFK 2006 VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

1. Voting is a basic right and privilege we should not take lightly. Our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, DOD civilians, invited contractors, technical representatives and their eligible family members deserve every opportunity to participate in the electoral process. As of 15 May 2006, there are 175 days until National General Election Day, 7 Nov 2006. Of course there are frequent and meaningful local, county and state elections across America all the time in which we are all encouraged to participate.

2. All Commanders and Staff Principals should have a copy of the 15 March 06, USFK Chief of Staff memorandum and Implementing Instructions for the Conduct of the USFK 2006 Voting Assistance Program (VAP). You can find these documents on a link on USFK's website home page, [www.usfk.mil/usfk/index.html?/usfk/vap/contents.html](http://www.usfk.mil/usfk/index.html?/usfk/vap/contents.html). This link also provides information for downloading the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) and Federal Write in Absentee Ballot (FWAB). The FPCA is used for registering and requesting an Absentee Ballot and the FWAB is used when an Absentee Ballot has been requested, but not received.

3. You should register and request an Absentee Ballot not later than 1 Sep 2006 for the National General Election. Completed Absentee Ballots must be post marked and mailed not later than 15 Oct 2006.

4. By now every unit USFK-wide should have a Voting Assistance Officer (VAO) identified. VAOs have a vital task in emphasizing the importance of the upcoming General Election and ensuring that all eligible personnel are afforded every opportunity to exercise their right to vote through voter registration and absentee balloting.

5. Commanders and leaders down to first line supervisors need to be involved and support this program. The DoD sanctioned Overseas Citizens Voters' Week (2-8 Jul 06) and Armed Forces Voters' Week (3-9 Sep 06) are excellent times to push VAP information in your communities. These time periods provide an excellent forum for educating our fellow citizens, especially our young service and family members, who may be exercising their right to vote for the very first time. We want to make this an educational as well as a memorable event for them.

6. Public Affairs Offices and the Armed Forces Network in Korea (AFN-K) are force-multipliers and key to a successful information campaign. Commanders and VAOs are encouraged to utilize these resources to the maximum extent possible.

7. I encourage all of our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, DOD civilians, invited contractors, technical representatives and their eligible family members to exercise this important right. Remember, one person with one vote can make a difference.

We Go Together!

B. B. BELL  
General, US Army  
Commander

**FREEDOM'S FRONTIER!**

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